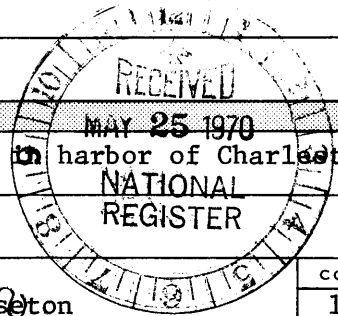


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: South Carolina	
COUNTY: Charleston	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70-7.41-0020	DATE 7/16/70

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: Castle Pinckney			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: On Shute's Folly; sandy marsh island in harbor of Charleston, 1600 yards from eastern waterfront.			
CITY OR TOWN: Charleston harbor			
STATE South Carolina	CODE 41	COUNTY: Charleston	CODE 10



<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Tourist attraction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments memorial planned

<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>			
OWNER'S NAME: Fort Sumter Camp #1269, Inc., Sons of Confederate Veterans			
STREET AND NUMBER: Mail address: P.O. Box 237			
CITY OR TOWN: Charleston	STATE: South Carolina	CODE 41	

<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: R.M.C. Charleston County Court House, Bk. V 92, p. 241			
STREET AND NUMBER: Broad and Meeting Streets			
CITY OR TOWN: Charleston	STATE: South Carolina	CODE 41	

<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>			
TITLE OF SURVEY: HABS; Records of Buildings in Charleston and the S.C. Low Country, McKee			
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: (region) Library of Congress, Division of Prints and Photographs			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: D.C.	CODE 09	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

# 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Crescent-shaped, castle-type bastion on Shute's Folly, a mile offshore East Battery, in Charleston Harbor's Hog Island Channel. Constructed 1808-1811 as an inner-harbor, secondary-defense fortress, the completely-brick wall remains -- a circle of brickwork in classic lines. Recently removed as first steps of excavation and restoration have been unrelated buildings dating from 20th century government use as a buoy construction and storage facility. Among artifacts that have been uncovered are a 10" Columbiad gun (this used a powder charge of 40 pounds and projectiles weighing 428 pounds, had an elevation of 20 degrees and a maximum range of just over 2 miles).

Earliest fort at this site was constructed of timber and earth during the Colonial period. A horseshoe battery had been designed as early as 1742 to extend fortifications from the Ashley River across the neck of Charles Town.

Against the French threat, in 1797, Charleston citizens subscribed funds for a fort of palisades and sand, "weak but worthy as a second line of defense."

Following 1804 hurricane destruction, the federal government acquired the site and, by 1809, was completing the fort as an enclosed work of masonry for two tiers of guns. Although Castle Pinckney had regressed, by 1826, to secondary importance as a harbor defense, regular maintenance was kept up, and thorough repair put it in shape for a garrison by 1831. In 1833, a heavy battery of 24-pounders was mounted and a timber palisade erected to protect the rear wall. Defenses greatly improved in this era. Various stages of strengthening and reduction of strength followed, including the 1864 sand and turf wall which Confederate defenses built within the fort.

In 1855, a light was installed on the island's eastern sector and was described in early lighthouse lists as a yellow tower with a light 50 feet above sea level. By 1880, a new harbor light had been erected on the south.

In 1884, the fort was dilapidated, with walls settled and cracked, gun carriages rotted away and guns buried in rubbish. It became an "interesting ruin."

In 1966, the property was obtained by the Sons of the Confederate Veterans to establish a museum and memorial monument.

The restoration program is in seven phases:

- (1) Excavation of fort interior and razing of buildings.
- (2) Pointing up brickwork in rounded walls of fort, replacement of the top to reach original level; opening sally port for ingress and egress at main ground level.
- (3) Provision of utilities, and a security program.
- (4) Construction of exhibits and archives rooms, preparation for memorials, furnishings, facilities, etc.
- (5) Landing barge or floating dock, salvaging heart pine deck of old dock.
- (6) Permanent boat for passengers.
- (7) Ultimate helicopter landing pad; basins for replicas of The Little David (the first submersible); possibly a restaurant.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☒ 18th Century☒ 20th Century☒ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1808-1811

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Aboriginal☐ Education☐ Political☐ Urban Planning☐ Prehistoric☒ Engineering☐ Religion/Phi-☐ Other (Specify)☒ Historic☐ Industry☐ Philosophy~~Patriotic~~☐ Agriculture☐ Invention☐ Science~~Shrine and~~☐ Architecture☐ Landscape☐ Sculpture~~tourist~~☐ Art☐ Architecture☐ Social/Human-~~attraction~~☐ Commerce☐ Literature☐ Italian☐ Communications☒ Military☐ Theater☐ Conservation☐ Music☐ Transportation

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Typical of the castle-type fortresses which guarded important early settlements, but which lost their effectiveness with the improvement of explosive shells and the development of rifle pieces, Castle Pinckney is believed to possibly the only horseshoe fort left in America which can be restored. The fort is a Charleston Harbor landmark and is historically interesting because it existed for such a long period of time, reflecting a number of colorful and significant events from the Colonial through the Confederate periods.

It is a reminder of early Colonial problems of fortification against sea attack by Spaniards, pirates and Indians. As early as 1736, plans were advanced to fortify the small, sandy marsh island which was a 1711 land grant to Col. Alexander Parris, commander of the provincial militia. Its name reflects the later owner, Joseph Shute, and preserves the Colonial custom of describing a Carolina sea island as a "folly."

The fort is a reminder of the Revolutionary War period. In the 1780 defense of Charles Towne, Gen. Benjamin Lincoln used the Castle Pinckney site as the terminal anchor for eight vessels sunk in the harbor to block the British fleet. It was included in Congressional authorization after the Revolution to strengthen the defenseless Atlantic coast.

It is a reflection of the late 18th century when Charlestonians, fearing a war with France, subscribed personal funds to improve harbor defenses and named the Shute's Folly fort for Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, Charlestonian who was President Washington's ambassador to France and famous for his stand against United States payment of any tribute.

Although the fort saw no action in the War of 1812, Secretary of War Eustis reported it was the most important fortification in Charleston harbor by the end of 1811.

During the Nullification years, Castle Pinckney was part of the steady build-up of Federal forces along the coast.

Castle Pinckney was the first ground seized by the Confederate military, an act some historians claim as the first overt act of war. This was accomplished Dec. 17, 1860, by a detachment of the S.C. Militia's 1st Regiment of Rifles under Col. J.J. Pettigrew and Maj. Ellison Capers. During 1861, the garrison guarded Federal prisoners taken during the Battle of First Manassas—about 65 members of the 11th New York Zouaves and another group, from the 69th Irish Regiment's Meagher Zouaves. Its occupation by Federal forces in February, 1865, ended Castle Pinckney's role as sentinel of Charleston.

Plans are completed for restoring the historic site and the effort has strong backing.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

# 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

James P. Petit and James A. Turner Jr., "Out of Oblivion: Castle Pinckney," The Sandlapper Magazine of South Carolina. Columbia, S.C., July 1969.pp 66-75.

WPA, South Carolina: A Guide to the Palmetto State, American Guide Series, Illustrated. New York, Oxford University Press. 1941

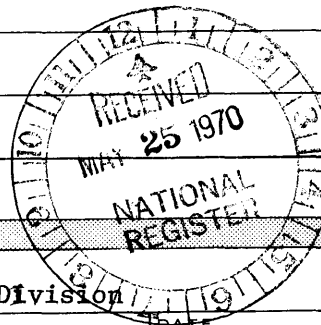
# 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	32	46	25
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	79	54	41½
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 3.5 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



# 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Mrs. James W. Fant, Historic Resources Division

ORGANIZATION: S.C. Department of Archives and History DATE: May 16, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER: 1430 Senate St., P.O. Box 11,188, Capitol Station 29211

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia STATE: South Carolina CODE: 41

# 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

# NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name Charles E. Lep  
Director

Title S.C. Department of Archives and History

Date 5/19/70

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief Allen Connally  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

JUL 16 1970

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

William J. Muntz  
Keeper of The National Register

Date JUN 23 1970

SEE INSTRUCTIONS